CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	21176.jpg
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1900418.009
Medium:	Image File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	30 August 2019
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	30 August 2019

Summary of reasons for decision:

The image file explicitly depicts a man sexually abusing a young girl. It is deemed objectionable because it promotes and supports the exploitation of children for sexual purposes. The image is clearly intended to be sexually arousing to people with a prurient interest in children. It presents them as sexually available and appropriate subjects for adult sexual gratification, and further encourages and legitimises such an interest. As an image file it can be shared widely among like-minded individuals. The image may also be used for grooming other potential victims of child sexual abuse. The Classification Office has considered the effects of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 on the application of the classification criteria. The classification of this publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression, but this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications falling under s3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 be deemed objectionable and reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to limit the availability of publications that promote and support the exploitation of children for sexual purposes.